RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 3rd March, 1987/12th Phalguna, 1908 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock; **Mr. Chairman** in the Chair.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we take up today's agenda, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri Biswa Goswami, a former Member of this House from the State of Assam who had retired only last year in April, Shri Goswami passed away yesterday at Guwahati.

Shri Biswa Goswami was born at Nalbari, Assam in December 1921 and and had his education at Nalbari and Guwahati. He took active part in the freedom struggle and was jailed for participation in the 'Quit India' Movement in 1942. The same urge in him took him to Goa, where he participated in the Satyagraha for liberation of Goa and was injured in the police lathi charge. An active social and political worker, Shri Goswami was associated with several student, social welfare and labour organisations. Shri Goswami actively participated in the debates of the House during his membership from April 1980 to April 1986.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Biswa Goswami.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hon Members then stood in silence for a minute)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved family our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Payment of compensation to November, 1984 riot victims

*81. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:†
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the payment of compensation to the innocent victims of the November, 1984 riots was the responsibility of the Union Government as per the Punjab Accord; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the claims and payments made by the Union Government on this account in Punjab, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh so far?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, the Administration of Delhi which is a Union Territory has given financial assistance to November, 1984 riot affected victims as per the statement laid on the Table of the House. (*See* below). Government of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh have extended financial assistance from their State budgets.

Statement

Delhi Administration has provided grauitous relief amounting to about Rs. 7.46 crores to persons affected by November, 1984 riots as indicated below:—

	(Rupees)
(a) Death cases . . .	20,000
(b) Injury	2,000

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chaturanan Mishra.

(Rupees)

(c) Damage to dwelling—

Partial damage	2,000
Substantial damage	5,000
Total damage	10,000

Delhi Administration has also given financial assistance amounting to Rs. 82.82 lakhs to those who lost their insured property (without riot cover) during November, 1984 riots. In such cases payment has been made at the rate of 50 per cent of the estimated loss subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000.

Apart from financial assistance, several rehabilitation measures, such as allotment of houses, shops and stalls, offer of job etc. have been taken.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि प्रश्न से देखा जाएगा, मैंने सरकार से मांगा था— details of the claims and payments made by the Union Government on this account in Punjab, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh so far. का उसमें जो हम लोगों को दिया गया है वह है कि रेट्स क्या क्या। हम तो डिटेल्स चाहते हैं कितने लोग मरे, कितने इनजर्ड हुए, कितने के मकान की क्षति हुई, कितने लोग इन-श्योर्ड थे, उनको कितना दिया ताकि अगर यह फिगर्स आ सकें, तो हम लोग वहां की जनता को और दूसरे लोगों को कह सकें कि इतना सरकार ने किया है? लेकिन आप तो सिर्फ रेट बता देते हैं। रेट तो हम लोग वैसे भी जानते हैं।

इसलिए मेरा पहला प्रश्न यह है कि कितने लोगों ने क्लैम पेटीशन फाइल किए और कितने डेथ कम है, इंजरी का है, डेमेज टु डवैलिंग यूनिट का है, चाहे वह पार्शल हो या फुल हो, जो भी हो? इसके साथ ही कितने लोगों को सरकार रिहेबिलीटेशन में जैसे—

allotment of houses, shops and offer of jobs

दिया है, यह डिटेल्स सरकार हम लोगों को दे।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, so far as the Delhi Administration is concerned, the scale that was decided was: in death cases Rs. 20,000, injury—Rs. 2,000; in cases of damage to dwelling units—partial damage Rs. 2,000, substantial damage—Rs. 5,000, total damage—Rs. 10,000.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: This is not what I am asking for.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wait. I am following the answer.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, so far as death cases are concerned, in Delhi the total number of deaths was 2,425. The total number of persons to whom Rs. 20,000 has been paid is 2,245. The total number of persons to whom Rs. 20,000 is yet to be paid is 3. The total number of persons to whom Rs. 10,000 is yet to be paid—this is because, Sir, initially the compensation was decided at Rs. 10,000 and after the report of the Dhillon Committee it was enhanced to Rs. 20,000, and they are yet to come forward and make their claims and collect the balance of Rs. 10,000—is177.

The enquiry is pending in only four cases. In all, the Delhi Administration has paid Rs. 7.46 crores as gratuitous relief on this account to the riot-affected persons. The nationalised banks have sanctioned loans worth Rs. 33.92 crores in respect of 6745 cases for restoring or re-establishing business premises which were damaged. Besides, the Delhi Administration has given financial assistance to those who lost their insured properties which were not covered for riot. In such cases, payment has been made at the rate of 50 per cent of the estimated loss subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.000. On this head of account, the Delhi Administration has paid Rs. 82.81 lakhs. About allotment of tenements, the Delhi Administration has allotted tenements to 936 widows

and 942 other riot victims. They have taken up a programme of rehabilitation of the widows. They have given training in various crafts and skills, and various government and semi-government organisations have been persuaded and placement has been found for 391 widows. This is what the Delhi Administration has done.

Shall I go on to Punjab, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chaturanan Mishra, do you want it?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Or shall I place it on the table?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I was going to ask. Let him place the statement on the table.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: All right. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : श्रीमन्, मैं यह भी चाहूंगा कि दिल्ली के अतिरिक्त दूसरे राज्यों के संबंध में भी सूचना दी जा हैं । इस संबंध में मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि क्या इसमें कोई टाइम बाउंड प्रोग्राम बनाएंगे । उनके तमाम केसेज को आप फाइनलाइज कर देंगे, फाइनलाइजेशन से मेरा मतलब है either this way or that way. Will you please give a time bound-programme, by which time the cases are to be finalised, as soon as possible?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have yourself answered it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There is no time-limit. We have impressed upon all the State Governments to finalise these cases quickly. I do not think that there is any in which cases have not been finalised. If the hon. Member will bring to our notice any case in any State, which has not been finalised, we are willing to ensure that it is finalised very quickly.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, in case of death only Rs. 20,000 is being paid. I think, this amount needs to be enhanced. Is it a fact that the Government of Punjab has recommended that instead of Rs. 20,000, Rs. 50,000 should be paid, and, if so, why has the Government of India not accepted its recommendation?

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sir, this amount was fixed by the Dhillon Committee Report, and the Punjab Government itself is paying the same amount. We do not have a separate request as the hon. Member has mentioned. This is the pattern that we have suggested to all the State Governments, and most of the State Governments have accepted this pattern, not only in the case of these riots but in the case of of riots of other nature that happen in other parts of the country. This is the norms which the State Governments have also accepted.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Sir, in reply to the main question, the hon. Minister has said about the training of the widows. He has mentioned the number. I think it is about 390 or something like that. I would like to know what the total number of widows is who have sought for help from the Government for rehabilitation.

Then, Sir, I understand that there are a large number of orphans also who have lost either father or mother or both. What about these orphans? Whether there is a scheme for their rehabilitation and their education, I would like to know from the Government.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: According to the information available the number of widows eligible for appointment is 990. We have so far been able to find placement only for 391 widows in various Central Government and State Government offices. We

have had to relax certain rules. I can share this with you and with the House that only yesterday we have taken a decision that if other widows require placement and if some rules have to be relaxed for them, we will do that. I do hope that the remaining widows will also find placement. I will do my very best to find them placement very soon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And what about the orphans?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I do not have any separate figures about the orphans. I will collect the figures and place them before the House.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: I would like to know from the Minister whether it is a fact that the Delhi 1984 riot victims have presented a memorandum to the Government of India stating different issues and the grievances faced by them. I would also like to know how many relief camps are still existing in different parts of the country, including Delhi and how many people stay in those relief camps and by what time they will be rehabilitated.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: As per the information with me, officially there are no camps run by the Delhi Administration at present. All camps which were organised by the Delhi Administration were completed, wound up and the people who were given assistance have been able to go back to their places. At the moment officially there are no camps, but certain organisations have some people who are staying there voluntarily and they are looking after them. For that we do not have a specific figure, because we have not carried out any survey.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: The Delhi Victims Association has submitted a memorandum. My main question was this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. Mr. Ahluwalia.

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से गृह मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहूंगा कि इन्श्योरड प्रापर्टी के बारे में जो 50 परसेंट और 50,000 विचएवर इज लैस,इसके बारे में जो घोषणा की गई थी सरकार क्या उनके बारे में भी सोच रही है जिनकी की इंश्योरेंस 20 लाख या 25 लाख थी उनका 50 परसेंट या 50,000 क्या पड़ता है ? दूसरा, उनके बारे में क्या कुछ सोचा जा रहा है जिनकी प्रापर्टी इंश्योरड नहीं थी और ढिलो कमेटी की रेकमेंडेशन्स जितनी की गई थीं उनमें से कितनी इप्लीमेंट हो गई है और कितनी अभी बाकी हैं, कृपया बताने की कृपा करेंगे ?

श्री बूटा सिंह : सभापति जी, जो 20 लाख की इश्योरेंस स्कीम की आनरेबल सदस्य ने बात की है, जाहिर है कि वह तो इंश्योरड होगी ही और जहां पर इंश्योरड नहीं है फिर भी हमने कवर किया है उसमें यह हमने निर्धारित किया है कि उसका 50 परसेंट आफ दी इंश्योरड और दीं मैक्सीमम 50,000 उस के ऊपर सरकार की तरफ से कार्यवाही जारी है । जो केसेज बाकी होंगे, जैसे मेरे मान्यवर सहयोगी ने कहा है, उसके बारे में ऐसा है कि वे केसेज हम र करेंगे ।

जहां तक ढिल्लो कमेटी की रेकमेंडेशन्ज का सवाल है, most of them have been accepted and implementation is on. I talked to the Chief Ministers of U.P., Haryana and other States also. In other States also we are trying to see, to the best possible extent, that the Dhillon Committee recommendations are implemented.

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: The compensation, according to the statement given by the hon. Minister, is very meager. The compensation for total damage of the House is given as Rs. 10,000. When the House-building has risen to a very heavy cost, this amount will not be adequate even

to build a small hut. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, apart from giving this compensation, whether there are any rehabilitation measures undertaken by the Government like free education to the children of the riot victims, training for self-employment and interest-free bank loans to the riot victims.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: As I said while answering earlier supplementary we have taken various measures for the rehabilitation of the widows. We have imparted training in spice-making, tailoring and other trades. We have enlisted voluntary organisations like Saheli, National Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs, Sikh Women's Welfare Association. Training-cum-production centre has been established by the Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation at Tilak Vihar. We must look at the whole package. If more has to be done and we will do it. As it is we are doing these things. Nationalised banks have sanctioned loans worth Rs. 33.92 crores in respect of 6,745 cases. We are doing our best to see that they are rehabilitated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question.

Demand for the introduction of 'Palace on wheels' in the South

*82. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka have requested the Central Government to introduce 'Palace on Wheels, in the South; and

(b) if so by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, to attract the foreign tourists, the introduction of 'Palace on Wheels' is very essential in the South. There is a report in the press that the Government of Karnataka have forwarded a project report to the Centre for their consideration to introduce 'Palace on Wheels'. Incidentally, I met the Chief of Karnataka Tourism Development Corporation and he also said the same thing. But unfortunately the Minister says that he has not received anything from the State Government. Whatever may be the position, I would like to know from the Minister if any proposal comes from any one of the States in South to introduce' 'Place on Wheels' linking all the State capitals—Hyderabad, Madras Bangalore and Cochin, will he consider the same and give full grant for the implementation of this project?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, 'Palace on Wheels' is a very novel and interesting concept of tourism. It is a prestigious project launched jointly by the Indian Railways and the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation. The Ministry of Tourism is not involved in this. These two organisations, the Indian Railways and the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation, got together and prepared the special train comprising vintage saloons which erstwhile Maharajas used to have and got renovated by the Railways and they are operating it. The Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation and the Indian Railways share the income. At present no proposal has been received from any State Government of the South to introduce 'Palace on Wheels' . If they come forward with a proposal on the same terms as the present one which is already in vogue, we in the Tourism Ministry will be happy to welcome all its implications by way of economic viability. If the State Government and the Indian Railways can get together on some sort of arrangement